

(column 2, lines 14 to 16). However, the Examiner overlooks other information in the art which negates the motivation to combine Lerner and Zucchetti, and which calls into question whether one of skill in the art would have a reasonable expectation of success. What is overlooked is the fact that UV irradiation is associated with increased cell proliferation. One of skill in the art would not use an agent which decreases cell death (and thereby increases cell number) to treat a disorder associated with increased cell number.

For example, Yano et al., 2002, *J. Invest. Dermatol.* 118:800-805 (Yano), which is representative of the art, teaches that “[c]hronic UV-B irradiation of the skin results in *epidermal hyperplasia*, degradation of extracellular matrix molecules, and *formation of wrinkles*” (abstract, our emphasis). Epidermal hyperplasia is defined as an increase in the number of cells in a tissue or organ. Thus, according to Yano, UV-B induced wrinkles are associated with an increase in cell number in the skin. Lerner teaches that L-NAME decreases cell death in the skin, and thus increases cell number. Since Yano teaches that UV-B induced wrinkles are likewise associated with an increased cell number, one of skill in the art would have no basis for thinking that L-NAME, which increases cell number, can be successfully used to treat wrinkles or fine wrinkles based on the teaching of Lerner, in view of any or all of Zucchetti, Parab, and Yamaguchi.

Thus, the treatment of fine wrinkles, including those caused by exposure to UV-B radiation, would not be obvious to one of skill in the art based on the teaching of Lerner, in view of any or all of Zucchetti, Parab, and Yamaguchi. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

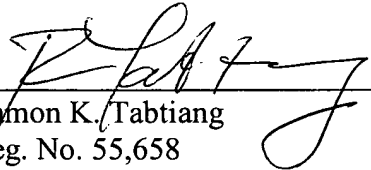
Applicant : Ethan Lerner and Seishiro Fujii
Serial No. : 10/057,247
Filed : January 25, 2002
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Attorney's Docket No.: 10284-466001 / 1791.1

Enclosed is a Petition for Extension of Time along with the required fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 10284-466001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4 Nov 2005



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